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## EDITORIALS†

### STATE HUMANE POUND ACT (INITIATIVE NO. 2)

**Balloting Results.**—CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE's issue for November will be in press by November 8, election day, on which account nothing but a guess can now be hazarded concerning the decision of California's electorate as to the "State Humane Pound Act," known as Initiative No. 2.

It is our hope, however, that this measure, so inimical to the real interests of public health in our State, will have by then gone down to a deserved defeat. For the moment, comment will be limited to some features of the campaign just closing against the proposed initiative.

\* \* \*

**Set-up of the Organized Effort Against Proposition No. 2.**—To some physicians, it may have appeared that the organized effort brought into being to oppose the "State Humane Pound Act" was somewhat slow in getting under way. This impression could easily have been gained, because certain California newspapers, from the very beginning, not only gave much space to the Act's proponents, but were more than reluctant to accept "copy" in which the fallacies of the initiative were exposed.

Nevertheless, here and there, other newspapers were generous in accepting such articles, and also in printing editorial comment against the proposed law.

The fight to oppose Initiative No. 2 was carried on in reality in its initial stages, by organization of public-spirited citizens (college presidents, church prelates, attorneys, physicians and others), who founded the California Society for the Promotion of Medical Research. That resourceful organization alone not only secured resolutions from national and state groups condemning the misnamed "Humane Pound Act," but also carried on an intensive educational campaign; providing speakers before assemblies, and bill poster and hand literature, and sending newspaper copy to the daily press. Also spot and other radio announcements. Much credit, therefore, is due the many workers of that efficient organization.

† Editorials on subjects of scientific and clinical interest, contributed by members of the California Medical Association, are printed in the Editorial Comment column which follows.